**Ground water level**

2451. SHRI T.K. RANGARAJAN: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that the ground water level is being depleted continuously in areas due to overdrawing of water by industrial units;

(b) if so, whether attention of his Ministry has been drawn to any such cases;

(c) if so, the details thereto;

(d) whether there is any guidelines/rules pertaining to the drawing of ground water by the industrial units;

(e) if so, the details thereof;

(f) whether there is any mechanism to monitor the adherence of the rules by these companies; and

(g) the details thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI VINCENT PALA): (a) to (c) The Central Ground Water Board (CGWB) has reported that decline in ground water levels in an area is a cumulative effect of ground water withdrawal for all purposes including domestic, industrial as well as agricultural sectors. As per assessment carried out by CGWB in association with the State Ground Water Departments, the share of agriculture in total ground water used in the country is 92% Remaining 8% is used in domestic and industrial sectors.

(d) to (g) The Central Ground Water Authority (CGWA) has issued guidelines for regulation of withdrawal of ground water in over-exploited, critical and semi-critical areas. States have been requested to take steps to implement these guidelines. Regulatory power of CGWA have been decentralized to district level authorities for grant of permission for extraction of ground water for drinking and domestic use in notified areas.

**Interlinking of rivers in Maharashtra**

†2452. SHRI RANJITSINH VIJAYSINH MOHITE-PATIL: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the status of the scheme of Government with regard to interlinking of rivers and the names of the projects on which work is going on at present;

(b) the names of the schemes being considered for interlinking of rivers in the State of Maharashtra and the status thereof; and

(c) the amount spent on this scheme, State-wise, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI VINCENT PALA): (a) The Ministry of Water Resources (MOWR) (erstwhile Ministry of Irrigation) formulated a National Perspective Plan (NPP) for Water Resources

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.